Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGR-20

AID-20 NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 H-02 RSR-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 ARA-11

IGA-02 /130 W

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R 051630 Z JUL 73 FM AMEMBASSY RABAT TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9453

CONFIDENTIAL RABAT 3088

E. O. 11652 GDS TAGS: ETRD MO CU

SUBJECT: MOROCCAN- CUBAN RELATIONS AND FINDLEY- BELCHER AMENDMENT

REF: RABAT 2750; STATE 128238

1. PAR. 3 OF STATE REFTEL REQUESTED DETAILS ON TYPE OF ENTERPRISES WHICH WOULD BE INVOLVED IN PROPOSED SALES TO CUBA. INSOFAR AS WE KNOW, THERE ARE NO PRIVATE OR STATE ENTERPRISES WHICH ARE AT PRESENT EXPORTING MANUFACTURED ITEMS TO CUBA. NOR DOES IT APPEAR THAT ANY STATE ENTERPRISE CONTEMPLATES SHIPPING MANUFACTURED ITEMS TO CUBA. FOREIGN MINISTRY SAYS IT UNDER PRESSURE, HOWEVER, FROM A NUMBER OF MANUFACTURING ENTERPRISES IN PRIVATE SECTOR WHICH WISH TO EXPORT TO CUBA. MINISTRY NOT FORTHCOMING WITH NAMES. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL (CHIEF ECONOMIC SECTION SEBTI) HAS EXPLAINED THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY DOES NOT WISH TO PLACE OBSTACLES IN WAY OF EXPANDING EXPORTS OF PRIVATE SECTOR BECAUSE IT WISHES TO FOLLOW A LIBERAL ECONOMIC POLICY WITH AS LITTLE GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE AS POSSIBLE WITH PRIVATE SECTOR.

2. IN VIEW OF ADMONITION IN PAR. 6 OF STATE REFTEL WE HAVE AVOIDED GIVING IMPRESSION THAT USG COULD GIVE GREEN LIGHT CONFIDENTIAL

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TO EXPORT OF MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS BY PRIVATE FIRMS TO CUBA. IT SEEMS LIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT MOROCCANS HAVE CONCLUDED EITHER THAT THEIR ELIGIBILITY UNDER PL-480 WILL NOT BE AFFECTED BY SUCH EXPORTS, OR THAT THEY WILL HAVE TO RUN THE RISK OF LOSING OUT ON PL-480 BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF CUBAN SUGAR TO THEM. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO US HERE IF WE COULD INFORM GOM OF PAST INTERPRETATION OF SECTION 103(D) (3) AS EXPLAINED IN PAR. 3 REFTEL. PLEASE ADVISE.

3. WITH REGARD TO USE OF MOROCCAN FLAG VESSELS IN CUBAN TRADE DEPARTMENT IS REFERRED TO RABAT A-41 WHICH TRANSMITTED FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTE EXPLAINING MOROCCAN POLICY ON THIS SUBJECT .

ROCKWELL

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NNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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